

# Noon News



**Today**  
High: 62 Low: 44  
Mostly sunny



**Tomorrow**  
High: 52 Low: 43  
Rain likely

**Wednesday, October 7, 2009**

More faculty and staff news:  
[thepoint.healthcare.uiowa.edu](http://thepoint.healthcare.uiowa.edu)

## **Study: Parkinson's may increase crash risk in low visibility**

A study by researchers at The University of Iowa and the Iowa City Veterans Affairs Medical Center suggests that drivers with mild to moderate Parkinson's disease may be at higher risk of crashes compared to healthy older drivers in low visibility conditions such as fog. The study, led by Ergun Uc, MD, UI associate professor of neurology, is published in the Oct. 6 issue of the journal *Neurology*.

## **4 council candidates advance**

Susan Mims, Terry Dickens, Jeff Shipley, and Dan Tallon were the top vote-getters in Iowa City's city council primary election yesterday. They will advance to the Nov. 3 general election for the two at-large council seats being vacated by Amy Correia and Mike O'Donnell. A total of 1,872 votes were cast out of 48,350 registered voters for a turnout rate of 3.87 percent—a record low for the primary.

## **Medical marijuana hearing set for today**

The Iowa Pharmacy Board will host a public hearing on the issue of medical marijuana from noon to 7 p.m. today in the third-floor auditorium at Bowen Science Building. This is the third of four hearings the board has held around the state since August to gather testimony from medical, scientific, and legal experts, as well as the public. Nationally, 13 states have legalized medical marijuana since 1996.

## **Court hears case about cross on public land**

The Supreme Court will hear arguments today in a key case focusing on separation of church and state, the Associated Press (AP) reports. The case involves a long-running legal fight over a Christian cross honoring World War I soldiers that has stood for 75 years on public land in a remote part of California.

## **Toyota pickups under review**

U.S. traffic safety authorities are investigating Toyota's 2000 and 2001 model year Tundra pickups following complaints that "severe frame corrosion" caused brake system failures or spare tire separation, Reuters reports. The probe follows the largest U.S. recall for Toyota announced last week.

## **Mexico aims to make Baja safer**

American tourists heading to Mexico's Baja California state in the future can expect more police protection from a new task force, CNN reports. Officials from Tijuana, Ensenada, and Rosarito say the task force will be made up of bilingual officers and designed primarily to serve Americans.

## **Pirates attack French military ship**

Pirates off the coast of Somalia fired on a French navy vessel early today after apparently mistaking it for a commercial boat, the AP reports. The French ship gave chase and captured five suspected pirates. France is a key member of the European Union's naval mission to fight pirates in the Gulf of Aden.

## **Diplomats travel to Honduras for talks**

Delegates from more than 10 Latin and North American countries will be in Honduras today to mediate talks between representatives of President Manuel Zelaya, who was ousted by the military three months ago, and the government of interim President Roberto Micheletti, the AP reports.

## **Kindle price comes down**

Amazon.com is cutting the price of its Kindle electronic book reader and launching an international version, the company announced. The device now costs \$259; it debuted in 2007 at \$399. The Kindle has a six-inch screen, room to store 1,500 books, and the ability to download books wirelessly.

## **FBI investigated Anna Nicole Smith in murder plot**

The FBI investigated Anna Nicole Smith in 2000-01 to see if she was part of a plot to kill her tycoon husband's son, whom she was battling for his late father's fortune, the AP reports. Prosecutors ultimately decided there wasn't evidence to charge Smith, who died in 2007 from a drug overdose.

## **Twins capture AL Central crown**

The Minnesota Twins beat the Detroit Tigers 6-5 in 12 innings last night to win the American League Central title. The Twins begin league divisional playoffs against the New York Yankees tonight.

### *Today in history*

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**On this day in 1982, the musical "Cats" opened on Broadway, beginning its record run of 7,485 theater performances.**

**MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON BACK**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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- Shop at the Books are Fun sale this week in the Pappajohn Pavilion lobby (Elevator I, Level 1). Open until 6 p.m. today and from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. tomorrow. A portion of the proceeds benefit UI Children's Hospital.
- The UI Health Care Burn Support Group for patients who have experienced burns and similar wounds (Fournier's gangrene and necrotizing fasciitis) meets from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, Burn Treatment Center, Elevator H, Level 8. For details, call Jolyn Schneider or Peaches Wytch at 356-2496.
- Patients, visitors, and staff are invited to participate in a painting and drawing art workshop being held today in the Colloton Pavilion atrium (Elevator F, Level 1) from 1:45 to 3:30 p.m. Graduate art students will help participants create art for the hospital. More workshop dates: Oct. 7, 12, and 14. All materials provided. Questions? Contact Marsha Howe at 356-8713.
- The Provost's Task Force on Internationalization and Diversity will hold an open forum from noon to 1 p.m. tomorrow in the Old Capitol Senate Chambers to solicit views on how the UI can become a more diverse, inclusive, and international community. Those unable to attend may send suggestions via e-mail to [diversity-strat-initiatives@uiowa.edu](mailto:diversity-strat-initiatives@uiowa.edu).
- Join UI Wellness for "Nutrition on the Go: Brown Bag Lunches" from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. tomorrow in Atrium Conference Rooms A/B (Elevator F, Level 7). Register at [Self Service](#) under "My Training." Questions? Call the liveWELL office at 353-2973.
- Gamblers Anonymous meetings are held every Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Pomerantz Pavilion, Elevator L, Level 5, Melrose Room No. 3. Call 353-3904 with questions.
- Friday is your last chance to purchase a \$25 raffle ticket for the January 2010 Cruising for a Cure Caribbean cruise. Winner receives an inside cabin for two, \$75 on-board credit per cabin, and all meals, drinks, and entertainment. All proceeds will benefit the Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center at the UI. Contact Pam or Trina at 351-7600.
- Hardin Library is offering an open workshop, "How Can We Help You Master Endnote?" from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday. Contact [kelly-thormodson@uiowa.edu](mailto:kelly-thormodson@uiowa.edu) for more information.

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- It's Hawkeye Homecoming! Stop by Wild Rose Gifts through Friday for your Homecoming gear and receive a free Hawk tattoo with every purchase. Hours: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends.
- The UI Center on Aging has developed the Seniors Together in Aging Research (STAR) Registry. The STAR Registry is available to all UI investigators who are seeking older research volunteers for IRB-approved studies. For more information, call Linsey at 384-4221, e-mail [linsey-abbott@uiowa.edu](mailto:linsey-abbott@uiowa.edu), or visit [www.centeronaging.uiowa.edu/star](http://www.centeronaging.uiowa.edu/star).
- Schedule a free financial counseling session with Horizon's Consumer Credit Counseling Service, offered through the UI on the fourth Friday of each month. Contact the Employee Assistance Program at 335-2085 or e-mail [EAPhelp@uiowa.edu](mailto:EAPhelp@uiowa.edu).
- Help support the UI Huntington Disease Center of Excellence by purchasing Community Day coupon booklets, good Nov. 14 at Younkers, Bon-Ton, Bergner's and Herberger's stores. Contact Leann Davis at 353-5668 or 1-309-MEB to purchase.
- UI Weight Management is a 16-week weight loss program at the Medicine Specialty Clinics that focuses on permanent lifestyle changes (diet, exercise, and behavior modification) to bring about long-term weight loss and reduced disease risk. Visit [www.uihealthcare.com/weight](http://www.uihealthcare.com/weight) for details or e-mail Marsha Cheyney at [weight-management@uiowa.edu](mailto:weight-management@uiowa.edu).

## RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS INVITED

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***Too many studies—not enough room in Noon News! For a more comprehensive list of studies looking for volunteers, go to [www.uihealthcare.com/depts/clinicaltrials/volunteer.html](http://www.uihealthcare.com/depts/clinicaltrials/volunteer.html).***

- Volunteers 25 years and older and fluent in English are invited to participate in a research study measuring trait affect and personality characteristics. Participation includes completing an online questionnaire. Compensation. For details, e-mail [psych-traitaffect@uiowa.edu](mailto:psych-traitaffect@uiowa.edu).
- Individuals age 18 or older with type 2 diabetes are invited to participate in several possible three-year studies to evaluate a once-weekly investigational injected diabetes drug on diabetes control compared with other approved medications. Requires up to 26 visits to UI Health Care and one phone visit. For details, call Diabetes Clinical Research and Programs at 356-4879.
- The UI Department of Leisure Studies is conducting a study about caregivers in the "sandwich generation." Are you a caregiver for a parent with dementia? Do you also have a minor child who lives with you? If you would like to participate, involvement will consist of an interview to talk about your experience. E-mail [lisa-schumacher@uiowa.edu](mailto:lisa-schumacher@uiowa.edu) or call 400-0628.

Contact *Noon News* at [noonnews@healthcare.uiowa.edu](mailto:noonnews@healthcare.uiowa.edu). Persons with a disability requiring reasonable accommodations in order to participate in programs at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics may discuss their needs with Concierge Services in advance at 356-1900.